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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/633,008	07/31/2003	Avi Ashkenazi	39766-0100P1	8996

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EXAMINER

HADDAD, MAHER M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1644

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/633,008

**Applicant(s)**

ASHKENAZI ET AL.

**Examiner**

Maher M. Haddad

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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### DETAILED ACTION

Claim 7 appears to depend on claim 2 rather than on claim 4, because claim 3 recites that the antagonist is an isolated antibody, while claim 4, which depends from claim 3, recites a monoclonal antibody.

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 3-6, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with the antibody to SEQ ID NO: 2, classified in Class 424, subclass 139.1.
- II. Claims 3-6, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with the antibody to SEQ ID NO: 32, classified in Class 424, subclass 139.1.
- III. Claims 3-6, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with the antibody to SEQ ID NO: 33, classified in Class 424, subclass 139.1.
- IV. Claims 3-6, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with the antibody to SEQ ID NO: 34, classified in Class 424, subclass 139.1.
- V. Claims 7-11, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with an immunoadhesion comprises SEQ ID NO: 2, classified in Class 424, subclass 185.1.
- VI. Claims 7-11, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with an immunoadhesion comprises SEQ ID NO: 32, classified in Class 424, subclass 185.1.
- VII. Claims 7-11, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with an immunoadhesion comprises SEQ ID NO: 33, classified in Class 424, subclass 185.1.
- VIII. Claims 7-11, drawn to a method of treating an inflammatory disorder with an immunoadhesion comprises SEQ ID NO: 34, classified in Class 424, subclass 185.1.
- IX. Claim 17, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with a gene encoding SEQ ID NO: 2; classified in Class 435, subclass 6.
- X. Claim 17, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with a gene encoding SEQ ID NO: 32; classified in Class 435, subclass 6.
- XI. Claim 17, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with a gene encoding SEQ ID NO: 33; classified in Class 435, subclass 6.
- XII. Claim 17, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with a gene encoding SEQ ID NO: 34; classified in Class 435, subclass 6.

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- XIII. Claim 18, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with an antibody to SEQ ID NO: 2; classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1.
- XIV. Claim 18, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with an antibody to SEQ ID NO: 32; classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1.
- XV. Claim 18, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with an antibody to SEQ ID NO: 34; classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1.
- XVI. Claim 18, drawn to a method of diagnosing an inflammatory disorder with an antibody to SEQ ID NO: 34; classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1.
- XVII. Claim 20-26, drawn to an isolated antibody to SEQ ID NO: 2 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 388.25.
- XVIII. Claims 20-26, drawn to an isolated antibody to SEQ ID NO: 32 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 388.25.
- XIX. Claims 20-26, drawn to an isolated antibody to SEQ ID NO: 33 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 388.25.
- XX. Claims 20-26, drawn to an isolated antibody to SEQ ID NO: 34 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 388.25.
- XXI. Claims 20 and 25, drawn to an isolated anti-idiotypic antibody to SEQ ID NO: 2 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 387.2.
- XXII. Claims 20 and 25, drawn to an isolated anti-idiotypic antibody to SEQ ID NO: 32 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 387.2.
- XXIII. Claims 20 and 25, drawn to an isolated anti-idiotypic antibody to SEQ ID NO: 33 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 387.2.
- XXIV. Claims 20 and 25, drawn to an isolated anti-idiotypic antibody to SEQ ID NO: 34 and a composition thereof; classified in Class 530, subclass 387.2.
- XXV. Claims 27-36, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having amino acids 21-276 or 21-399 of SEQ ID NO: 32, vectors and host cells, classified in Class 356, subclass 23, Class 435, subclasses 69.1 and 320.1.
- XXVI. Claims 27-36, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having amino acids 21-182 or 21-305 of SEQ ID

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NO: 33, vectors and host cells, classified in Class 356, subclass 23, Class 435, subclasses 69.1 and 320.1.

XXVII. Claims 27-36, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having amino acids 21-180 or 21-280 of SEQ ID NO: 34, vectors and host cells, classified in Class 356, subclass 23, Class 435, subclasses 69.1 and 320.1.

XXVIII. Claims 37-39, drawn to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1/21-276 or SEQ ID NO: 32 and an immunoadhesin thereof, classified in Class 350, subclass 395, Class 424, subclass 185.1.

XXIX. Claims 37-39, drawn to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1/21-305 or SEQ ID NO: 33 and an immunoadhesin thereof, classified in Class 350, subclass 395, Class 424, subclass 185.1.

XXX. Claims 37-39, drawn to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1/21-180 or SEQ ID NO: 34 and an immunoadhesin thereof, classified in Class 350, subclass 395, Class 424, subclass 185.1.

Claims 1-2 and 12-15 are linking claims and will be examined along with any elected Group I-VIII.

Claim 16 is linking claims and will be examined along with any elected Group IX-XII.

Claim 19 is a linking claim and will be examined along with any elected Group XVII-XXIV.

2. Groups XVII-XXX are different products. Nucleic acids, polypeptides, and antibodies to the polypeptides differ with respect to their structures and physicochemical properties; therefore each product is patentably distinct.

3. Groups I-XVI are different methods. A method of treating and a method of diagnosing differ with respect to ingredients, method steps, and endpoints; therefore, each method is patentably distinct.

4. Groups (XVII-XX)/((I-IV) and (XIII-XVI)), (XXVIII-XXX)/(VI-VIII) and (XXV-XXVII)/(X-XII) are related as product and process of using. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the antibody of Group XVII-XX can be used for affinity purification, in addition to

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the methods of treating and diagnosing recited. The polypeptides of Group XXVIII-XXX can be used for affinity purification, in addition to the methods of treating recited. The nucleic acids of Group XXV-XXVII can be used for gene therapy, in addition to the methods of diagnosing recited.

5. These inventions are distinct for the reasons given above. In addition, they have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by different classification and/or recognized divergent subject matter. Further, even though in some cases the classification is shared, a different field of search would be required based upon the structurally distinct products recited and the various methods of use comprising distinct method steps. Therefore restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Further, a prior art search also requires a literature search. It is an undue burden for the examiner to search more than one invention.

### *Species Election*

6. Irrespective of whichever group applicant may elect, applicant is further required under 35 US 121 (1) to elect a single disclosed species to which claims would be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable and (2) to list all claims readable thereon including those subsequently added.

If any one Group I-VIII is elected, applicant is required to elect a single specific inflammatory disorder (such as the ones recited in claims 12-13). These species are distinct because the pathological conditions differ in etiologies and therapeutic endpoints; thus each condition represents patentably distinct subject matter.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently.

7. Applicant is advised that a response to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141. If claims are added after the

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election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. M.P.E.P. § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of the other invention.

8. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

9. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

12. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

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10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maher Haddad whose telephone number is (571) 272-0845. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on (571) 272-0841. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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